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# Aqua Ohio announces 2011 plans

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With construction season getting under way, water supplier Aqua Ohio has rolled out the first of its waterline replacement projects for the upcoming months.

The company, which distributes water to 85,000 customers in Lake County, is expecting an especially productive year as it begins a \$2.3 million dollar capital improvement program for 2011.

"This year we're taking a more aggressive approach," Aqua Ohio Area Manager Anthony Mancari said. "We're probably doing about eight to 10 more project than in a typical year."

Mancari said the company is expected to work on 12 replacement projects in Mentor, along with two in Kirtland and one in Concord Township.

Many of the projects are not yet finalized as the company works with officials from Aqua Ohio communities to determine which lines should be replaced and when.

**See Aqua, Page A4**

## Aqua

From Page A1

"We work closely with the area townships and cities to go down and identify places that need improvement," Mancari said. "Typically, we replace lines that have had reported service interruptions or a significant number of main breaks."

The first two scheduled

projects were announced this week and include work along Forestview Avenue in Mentor as well as Rockwood Drive and Regency Woods Drive in Kirtland.

Work is slated to begin next week as crews install about 5,250 feet of pipe, worth about \$375,000, in Kirtland.

The Mentor project will cost about \$200,000 as crews replace about 1,650 feet of

6-inch diameter pipe with new 8-inch diameter pipe. The main is expected to be in service by the end of June.

Water-line replacement is expected to continue into early November, Mancari said.

Some of this year's projects, like the first two just announced, also include the replacement of fire hydrants. The new hydrants will be equipped with larger pumper outlets to allow for the deliv-

ery of more water for fire-fighting purposes.

As construction season continues and other projects get under way, affected residents will receive notice of the impending work, Mancari said.

"We hang notices on (the) door and our contractors typically talk to each homeowner to answer any questions and explain what's going on," he said.

Mancari said Aqua Ohio appreciates the patience of residents while crews work to make their water distribution system more efficient.

"The short-term impact might be some dirt on their curb or lawn, but we restore everything back to its original condition," he said. "We don't like tearing up anyone's trees or driveway and try to minimize the impact to our customers."